IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTORS: Leo A. Whiteside	GROUP:
PATENT NO.: U. S. Patent 5,766,260	EXAMINER:
ISSUED: June 16, 1998	
FOR: Acetabular Component With Improved Liner Seal and Lock	

St. Louis, Missouri June 13, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

As an Amendment to the United States Patent 5,766,260 in the Reissue Application for that patent, applicant requests entry of the following amendments:

## In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as follows:

1. (Amended) 1. A prosthesis [An acetabular component] comprising:

[an acetabular] <u>a</u> shell, said shell including at least one screw hole formed therein, said shell including a smooth inner sealing surface; <u>and</u>

 $\mathcal{L}$ 

Pie and de S. Buyca 1/31/01